

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 NEA-10 OIC-04 RSR-01 /154 W
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R 261219 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2670

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6565

E. O. 11652: GDS 1979

TAGS: OCON, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO: 18 TH COUNCIL MEETING

CINCPAC ALSO PASS POLAD

REF: STATE 076719

1. AT APRIL 26 COUNCIL REPS MEETING THAILAND, PHILIPPINES AND UK ACCEPTED US COUNCIL REP' S PROPOSAL THAT 18 TH COUNCIL MEETING BE HELD SEPTEMBER 28 IN USUN CONFERENCE ROOM IN NEW YORK. WHILE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, THEIR COUNCIL REPS INDICATED THAT DATE WOULD PROBABLY ALSO BE ACCEPTABLE THEIR GOVERNMENTS.

2. CONCERN WAS REGISTERED BY THAILAND, PHILIPPINES AND UK AS TO WHETHER ONE DAY WOULD BE SUFFICIENT. US COUNCIL REP REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED IT WOULD SINCE IT WAS EXPECTED THAT CERTAIN CEREMONIAL AND ROUTINE ITEMS WOULD BE ELIMINATED AND BULK
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OF WORK ON SEATO REVIEW WOULD BE DONE IN BANGKOK.

3. THAILAND SUGGESTED THAT, SINCE THIS WILL BE MOST IMPORTANT COUNCIL MEETING AS IT WILL CONCERN ITSELF WITH

FUTURE ROLE SEATO, AN INFORMAL, RESTRICTED, OFF- THE- RECORD MEETING OF COUNCIL MEMBERS BE HELD PRIOR TO ONE- DAY SESSION, I. E. ON SEPTEMBER 27. THERE WAS GENERAL SUPPORT FROM ALL MEMBERS FOR SUCH A MEETING. PERHAPS SUCH A MEETING COULD BE HELD LATE AFTERNOON OR EVENING SEPTEMBER 27, POSSIBLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH A DINNER.

4. AS TO TIMING OF COUNCIL REPS MEETING, SECRETARIAT SUGGESTED THAT THIS BE HELD TWO DAYS RATHER THAN ONE BEFORE COUNCIL MEETING TO ALLOW TIME FOR PROCESSING NECESSARY PAPER WORK FOR DISSEMINATION TO COUNCIL MEMBERS. WHILE IN PAST COUNCIL REPS MEETING PRECEDED COUNCIL MEETING BY ONLY ONE DAY, THERE WAS IN FACT TWENTY- FOUR HOUR GAP BETWEEN THE TIME THE TWO CONSIDERING COUNCIL REPS MET IN MORNING WHILE COUNCIL DID NOT BEGIN PLENARY SESSION UNTIL AFTERNOON FOLLOWING DAY AFTER PUBLIC OPENING SESSION IN MORNING. WE THINK SUGGESTION FOR COUNCIL REP' S MEETING SEPT 26 IS SOUND, AND NEED INVOLVE NO SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AFFECTING SCHEDULES OF COUNCIL MEMBERS OR OTHERS.

5. RE PARA 2 REFTTEL, US COUNCIL REP STATED THAT HE WAS REQUESTING US MILADREP SOUND OUT COLLEAGUES, WHO IN TURN WILL NO DOUBT CONTACT MILADS AND GOVERNMENTS, AS TO WHETHER THEIR RESPECTIVE MILADS WOULD INTEND BE PRESENT AT COUNCIL MEETING IF THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO PARTICIPATE. COUNCIL REPS HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS.

6. RICHARD SLOTT WILL FURTHER DISCUSS CONTENTS THIS CABLE WITH EA/ RA DURING VISIT NEXT WEEK.
UNGER

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